

ESF #6 - MASS CARE, HOUSING and HUMAN SERVICES

Participating Departments/Agencies:

Nebraska Department of Education
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
Nebraska Health and Human Services System
Nebraska Military Department
Nebraska Department of Roads
University of Nebraska System
Volunteers Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)
American Red Cross

I. PURPOSE

- A. To coordinate efforts to provide sheltering, feeding, emergency first aid and human services following a significant natural or technological emergency or disaster before, during and immediately following a Governor's Emergency/Disaster Proclamation.
- B. To collect, receive, and report information about the status of victims and assist with family reunification within the disaster area.
- C. To coordinate bulk distribution of emergency relief supplies to disaster victims following a disaster.

II. SITUATION

A. Disaster Condition

Disasters such as airplane crashes, flash floods, tornadoes, fires, transportation accidents or technological events may necessitate immediate mass care to evacuees, victims and emergency workers involved in the disaster and its aftermath. Extended displacement of victims is possible and shelters may be needed statewide to accommodate evacuees, and in some cases may need to be set up in neighboring jurisdictions.

B. Assumptions

- 1. ESF #6 planning is based on a worst case scenario in which a disaster occurs without warning and causes large numbers of casualties and results in widespread damage necessitating the temporary relocation of disaster victims.

2. The nature and extent of a disaster event requires a preplanned, immediate, and automatic response from Mass Care providers.
3. Mass Care providers will immediately provide feeding, shelter and emergency first aid services.
4. Sheltering and feeding activities may be required for 30 days after the onset of a disaster.
5. ESF #6 should be able to respond to welfare inquiries, from around the world, within 30 days of the disaster's onset.
6. Some victims will go to mass shelters; others will find shelter with friends and relatives; many victims will remain with or near their damaged homes.
7. Mass care shelter facilities will receive priority consideration for inspections to ensure safety of occupants.
8. Mass care operations and logistical support requirements will be given high priority by State support agencies.
9. Large numbers of spontaneous volunteers from the affected area and around the country will require a concerted coordination effort.
10. Special needs persons; aged, physical/mental disabilities, language barriers, and medical issues, will require intensive care and large numbers of skilled care givers
11. There will be large quantities of donated relief supplies that will need organized, warehoused, distributed, and disposed of during major incidents.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

- A. All participating agencies and departments will organize and operate using the NIMS protocols.
- B. A NEMA Response Section staff member serves as the ESF Coordinator for ESF #6. In the event of a potential or real disaster event, the ESF #6 Coordinator (ESFC) from NEMA will be notified by the SEOC. Upon SEOC request, the ESFC will be available to respond to requests for emergency/disaster related information. When the SEOC is activated, the ESFC will activate ESF #6, identify which participating departments/agencies are needed, and take steps to insure that participating departments/agencies are activated or on alert as appropriate.
- C. ESF #6 will be organized in a manner that ensures rapid response to the mass care needs of people affected by a disaster. Emphasis will be on each

participating agency to the ESF having thorough and up-to-date disaster plans that have been coordinated through the ESF's Coordinator. These plans will be operational in nature, and standardized whenever possible. When activated, agencies in ESF #6 will operate under these plans and their support documents.

D. ESF #6 will:

1. Focus primarily on sheltering activities, mass feeding, and the coordination of volunteer agency activities involved in mass care;
2. Maintain appropriate listings of resource staff to call for performing response activities. Resource staff should be available 24 hours per day, seven days per week.
3. Maintain inventories of available resources.
4. Establish communications with appropriate field personnel and ensure that they are ready for timely response.
5. Coordinate with participating departments/agencies to prioritize and develop strategies for a coordinated response.
6. Pre-position resources when it becomes apparent that state transportation resources will be required;
7. Coordinate with ESF #1 (Transportation) to provide ground transportation to evacuation shelters.
8. Continually reassess priorities to address the most critical mass care needs.
9. Track resources which are committed to specific missions;
10. Re-deploy and re-stage resources as appropriate.
11. Assist in locating health and welfare workers to augment personnel assigned to shelters.
12. Obtain casualty information from within the disaster area.
13. Provide technical assistance for shelter operations related to food, vectors, water supply, sanitation, and waste disposal.
14. Assist in the provision of medical supplies.
15. Provide available resources such as transportation, shelter facilities, cots and blankets, field kitchens, food service personnel, and emergency food supplies.

16. Provide potable water for mass care use and bulk distribution to disaster victims.
17. Provide assistance in inspecting mass care shelter sites after the disaster to ensure suitability of facilities to safely shelter disaster victims.
18. Provide assistance in constructing temporary shelter facilities, if necessary, in the disaster area.
19. Through the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency assist in the release of information for notification of relatives.
20. Establish priorities and coordinate the transition of mass care operations with recovery activities based on disaster situation information and the availability of resources that can be appropriately applied.
21. Provide for the procurement, reception, protection, security of donated relief items, both solicited and spontaneous.
22. Coordinate for staffing required for the sorting, distribution and inventory control of items.

IV. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

ESF #6 will utilize personnel and resources from participating departments/agencies to respond to mission assignments related to emergencies/disasters. Additional resources available at other ESFs may be coordinated and mobilized to support ESF #6 missions. When requests exceed the state's capability to respond, additional resources (i.e. federal resources, contractual agreements, and mutual aid agreements) will be mobilized. All personnel and resources mobilized by ESF #6 will remain under the direction and control of the ESFC #6, unless otherwise designated.